

PASETTER

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Spring 2001



Pennsylvania Association for Safety Education

A Reminder...



*The 52nd Annual PASE
Conference has been Scheduled
for May 3rd, 4th and 5th
at the Radisson
Lackawanna Station,
Scranton, Pennsylvania
Use the insert in this
issue to register...
Registration forms must be
received by April 15, 2001 for
early registration rates.*

In This Issue

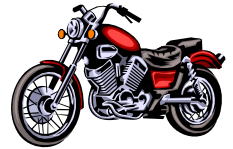
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MOTORCYCLE SAFETY REPORT

By: Martha Lang,
Motorcycle Safety Advisor



Over the past year, a revised curriculum for Penn DOT's Motorcycle Safety Program has been in development. The new program has been completed and will be implemented this year. This week, area supervisors and the state coordinator, Dave Surgnor, are in the state of Florida reviewing changes to the content of the curriculum. This course is a national effort to promote Motorcycle Safety in all states. The curriculum is the same all over the country. More information will be available at the conference.

(report continued on page 2)

We'd Like YOUR Help...



The winter issue of the PASETTER contained an informative article submitted by PASE President James R. Crawford. At the request of Mr. Crawford, please pass that article on to your local newspapers...

For additional copies of the article, please contact the PASETTER Editor at the address on page five. Any content concerns can be addressed to Mr. Crawford at Jcrawford@neb.k12.pa.us.

The PASETTER
would like to
welcome all new
members in 2001

Welcome!

*(Motorcycle Safety Report
Continued)*

The new driver laws also affect young people holding Motorcycle permits and licenses. The same laws concerning time of day and other restrictions apply. Passengers are not permitted to ride with a driver under the age of eighteen. A permit holder must be accompanied, on another motorcycle, by a licensed motorcycle driver and can not ride after dark.

A few new sites have been established, while the same number have been eliminated in the immediate area. Presently, there are forty sites available for instruction.

Additional information will be available at the conference. I hope to see a representative from Motorcycle Safety in the Exhibitor's area.

STATEMENT ON THE STANDARDS FOR SAFETY AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

March 2001

Submitted by Vince Phillips, Lobbyist

Thank you for convening public roundtables as a way to garner input from interested groups and persons. Reviewing these standards is one of the most important functions the State Board of Education has. It is a visionary realm where the long-term educational well being of students can be mulled over and thought through. These standards represent a far-reaching opportunity and provide a welcome contrast to the task of implementing shorter-term solutions to the perennial problems that demand the Board's immediate attention.

The PA Association for Safety Education (PASE) is the state association whose members are actively involved in Driver Education in the Commonwealth. Although most of our members are teachers in the various school districts, there are other members who work with special needs students to help them take their rightful place in society. In today's society, driving is almost a necessity except in the few areas where mass transit exists on a meaningful scale.

Driver Education is safety education. After all, the consequence of gaining a driver's license is steering a several thousand pound object to an objective without doing damage to the vehicle, its occupants, or to others.

It is critical for young drivers to know how to drive, and their skills (or lack of it) is critical for them, for their classmate passengers, and for innocent bystanders.

This cuts to the core issue. What is safety education? In health, it means learning about consequences. What happens if a person abuses their body through the use of controlled substance such as tobacco, drugs, or alcohol? What is the personal result of making the wrong decision, of choosing the wrong path? Driver Education operates under the same umbrella. What if the judgment called for is knowing what to do on wet pavement? Or spacing the interval between cars in icy conditions in order to avoid a winter collision? Driver Education IS safety education. Driver Education teaches young people the proper way to drive and helps them understand what happens if they do not look and think before proceeding (excuse the metaphor).

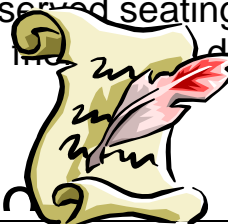
(continued on page 3)

PASE Retirees and Past Presidents to be Honored...

By: Joseph Intorre

PASE Retirees and Past Presidents will be honored at the Annual Banquet scheduled for the evening of Friday, May 4, 2001 at this year's PASE Conference. Honorees will need to purchase a special ticket for the meal, and reserved seating will be available for honorees. This is a great opportunity to meet with the honorees and discuss some of your experiences.

Mark your calendar to



STATEMENT ON THE STANDARDS FOR SAFETY AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION (continued)

Last session of the General Assembly, Graduated Driver Licensing was passed in Pennsylvania. According to the Governor's Office, the result of GDL has been a saving in human life. PASE has been a long-standing supporter of Graduated Driver Licensing and we commend the legislature for their action.

Still, there is a problem with GDL. It appears wedded to the notion that experience is the best teacher. It mandates fifty hours of guardian-supervised driving before the youth takes his or her driving test. Ignoring the difficulty of verifying whether or not the 50 hours was "real", a larger problem stems from the fact that not all role model/guardians are good teachers.

Some may be terrible drivers who transmit all their bad habits to the next generation. If a student hears from a guardian that running stop signs (or lights) is OK if they do not see oncoming traffic, that is the lesson they will absorb if there is no countering influence. Not all guidance in teaching driving skills is negligent. It may be well meaning but uninformed if the parent teaches the youth as he or she learned it forty years ago. Given all the developments under the hood and changes in highway construction standards, driving is not the same as it used to be. New laws such as driving (versus passing) on the left or absence of seatbelts as a traffic violation may be things that the parent simply has not been exposed to versus the Driver Education instructor whose job it is to know.

It is the rule of first impression. If a young person learns something the wrong way, it is much harder to retrain than it is to expose him or her to the correct way of driving. Learning it wrong provides an imprint that is very difficult to unlearn.

A positive influence is the Driver Education instructor. Even though experience is an effective teacher, it is not always the best teacher. It works best when coupled with instruction from a trained teacher who can demonstrate the correct way to drive, not the most expedient.

As a society, we do a disservice to our children if we do not teach them how to drive through a system of formal Driver Education. Sadly, many school districts do not offer Driver Education. Although reasons vary, the major reason is budgetary. The Commonwealth's reimbursement has remained at \$ 35.00 per pupil taking Driver Education, a rate unchanged since the 1950s. The current cost is about \$350.00. It is no wonder that some school districts have sacrificed their Driver Education program. That issue of a proper reimbursement will be fought in the hallways of the General Assembly although it may be that the State Board of Education has a role in recommending to the Education Department that it enhance its own budgetary commitment to supervising the educational integrity of Driver Education on the state level.

In the debate over Driver Education, the State Board of Education can play an important role. The State Board should include in its Standard on Safety and Physical Education a section stating that formal Driver Education is an important component of a student's total safety education. The PA Department of Education has an enhanced curriculum. Should not the State Board of Education encourage its use? Setting standards for safety and physical education to include a strong statement for Driver Education sends a signal to the entire educational community, administrators, school directory, teachers, and students, that Driver Education is crucial.

Conclusion

One area receiving considerable attention currently is technology literacy. It receives this attention because it is felt that releasing students into the world without required computer competency is almost abandoning them. It is a little like not teaching them how to write or read. Driver Education should be regarded in the same way. Everyone in our highly mobile learning these necessary skills also leaves them without a tool they will need for their entire life. Indeed, it is a tool that could protect their life.

On behalf of the PA Association for Safety Education, thank you for reviewing our viewpoint on the importance of Driver Education.

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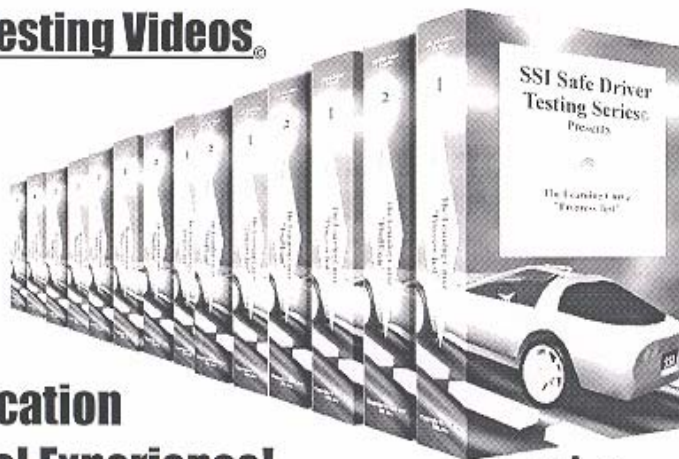


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The Members of the Pennsylvania Association for Safety Education, Inc. wish to recognize and thank the exhibitors who participated in the 2000 PASE Conference

- ABS Education Alliance
- Delmar Thomson Learning
- Doron Precision Systems, Inc.
- Glencoe/McGraw Hill
- Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board
- PA Motorcycle Safety
- Safety Industries, Inc
- Simulator Systems International



Be A Part Of IT!!

The PASETTER is created by article submissions provided by PASE members.

And, we are always on the lookout for articles.

You are encouraged to submit articles.

Remember... without you, the PASETTER doesn't exist.

If you would like to submit an article...enclose this completed form, with your article and mail them to:

Dana Bowser, Editor
The Pasetter
Highway Safety Center
R&P Building
629 Fisher Avenue
Indiana, PA 15705

Name: _____ Organization: _____

Title of Article: _____

Contact Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Author(s) of Article: _____

Please list any sources that you acquired information for your article from, and would like noted at the end of the article:

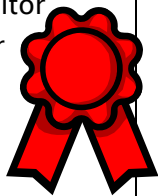
Special Instructions:

Please submit your articles in typed form. If you would like an article reproduced, please be sure to submit the source of the article, and author for copyright purposes. **Remember...large documents and articles WILL NOT be summarized by the editor and printed...it is the submitter's responsibility to do this.**

Send those articles in!!!

If your school is planning an activity that deals with highway safety...we'd like to know. Send your articles to:

Dana Bowser, Pasetter Editor
Highway Safety Center
R&P Building
629 Fisher Avenue
Indiana, PA 15705



PASE Membership Application

Dues for active members \$20, Retiree \$10, Student \$5 per year.
Sustaining Membership is \$100.

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Position _____ School/Organization _____

Home Phone _____ Business Phone _____ Fax _____

Return to: Ron Strapel, PASE Secretary/Treasurer, 1840 Marengo Road, Warriors Mark, PA 16877

2001 PASE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM
 RADISSON LACKAWANNA STATION HOTEL, SCRANTON
 700 LACKAWANNA AVENUE, SCRANTON, PA 18503
 MAY 3, 4 AND 5, 2001

Name _____

Address _____ School/Organization _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Advanced registration before April 15, 2001 is \$130.00. After April 15th, the fee for late registration is \$150.00. The registration fee includes breaks, listed meals and conference materials. **LODGING IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE REGISTRATION FEE.** Hotel reservations can be made via: 800-333-3333, 570-342-8300 or fax 570-342-0380. PASE has 100 rooms blocked for the conference **until April 15th**. Single Occupancy is \$108.90 per night. Double occupancy is \$108.90 per night. Specify two double beds or one queen size bed.

Conference Registration	Number	Total
Active (Early) \$130.00	_____	_____
Active (Late) \$150.00	_____	_____
Student \$120.00	_____	_____

Extra Tickets (Guest/Spouse)

Thursday Night Dinner	\$25.00	_____	_____
Friday Breakfast	\$13.00	_____	_____
Friday Luncheon	\$15.00	_____	_____
Friday Banquet	\$30.00	_____	_____

Membership: PASE dues are payable either before or at the Conference Registration Table.

Active	\$ 20.00	_____	_____
Retiree	\$ 10.00	_____	_____
Student	\$ 5.00	_____	_____
Sustaining	\$120.00 (Exhibitors)	_____	_____

NOTE: As part of Act 48, we will be a provider for the in-service credit.

Please make registration remittance payable to PASE, Inc. and send to:

Ronald J. Strapel
 1842 Marengo Road
 Warriors Mark, PA 16877

If you have any questions, please call 814-692-5578 or fax 814-692-8494